PORTLAND HARBOR
Natural Resource Trustee Council

Natural Resource Damage Assessment Process

Pre-assessment Screen

Prerequisite to a formal NRDA

Is any action by the Natural Resource Trustee Council warranted?

YES

Has an injury to the natural resources occurred?

YES

Does a pathway of exposure exist to connect the contamination to those injuries?

YES

Assessment Plan

Confirm contaminant exposure to Trust Resources.

Develop an Assessment Plan to identify how the potential damages (or compensation) will be determined.

Document fulfillment of the conditions and the legal NRDA procedures.

Provide site-specific information needed to estimate injuries or identify needed studies.

Draft Assessment Plan is available for public review and comment.

Assessment Implementation

Phase to gather information, measure the injuries and determine the "damages" or compensation.

Step 1: Injury Determination
Determine injury through modeling or laboratory and field studies.

Step 2: Quantification
- Identify the functions or "services" provided by the resources being injured.
- Determine the baseline level of these services before the injuries.
- Calculate the reduction in services resulting from the impacts.

Step 3: Damage Determination
Determine compensation to be provided by the Responsible Parties in the form of restoration projects or money for restoration.

Post-Assessment

Prepare a Report of Assessment detailing the results of the Assessment Implementation phase.

Propose a reasonable number of restoration alternatives including natural recovery.

Select a preferred alternative based on several factors, including
- Technical feasibility.
- Relationship of costs to benefits.
- Consistency with response actions.

Portland Harbor Phased NRDA Approach

- Phase 1: Assessment Plan and Field Studies
- Phase 2: Assessment Implementation to reach early settlements
- Phase 3:Litigation-oriented Damage Assessment
- Phase 4: Recovery of damages from non-settling parties
- Restoration Planning and Implementation

Public Comment Opportunity